

Primary or Secondary Decomposition 143

decomposable, but that a portion of it is decomposed by evolved at the *anode*, producing secondary results, i.e. the strength of the acid, the intensity of the *d other circumstances.

states.—One of these has been referred to already, viz. "only secondary results relative to the acetic acid, the many of the metallic acetates the results at both are secondary (481, 485).

of soda fused and anhydrous is directly decomposed.

I believe, a true electrolyte, and evolving soda and at the *cathode* and *anode*. These, however, have no uiration, but are immediately resolved into other ; charcoal, sublimed hydrogen, etc., being set free, and, as far as I could judge under the circumstances, the carbonic acid mingled with carbonic oxide, i.e. the latter.

tartaric acid.—Pure solution of tartaric acid is almost 'reductor as pure water. On adding sulphuric acid, well, the results at the positive electrode being r secondary in different proportions, according to in the strength of the acid and the power of the Tent (487). Alkaline tartrates gave a large proportion

of results at the positive electrode. The hydrogenitive electrode remained constant unless certain triple

Its were used.

Solutions, of salts containing other vegetable acids, as the of sugar, gum, etc., dissolved in dilute sulphuric ising albumen, etc., dissolved in alkalies, were in turn to the electrolytic power of the voltaic current.

In *ses, secondary results to a greater or smaller extent

occurred at the positive electrode.

concluding this division of these Researches, it cannot to the mind that the final result of the action of the current upon substances placed between the electrodes,

being simple may be very complicated. There are

3 "by which these substances may be decomposed, the direct force of the electric current, or by the action which that current may evolve. There are also two which new compounds may be formed,

i.e. the evolving substances whilst in
their nascent
> directly with the matter of the
electrode; or else
>In.a/tion with those bodies, which being
contained
>cia/ted with, the body suffering
decomposition, are

